



# NEW BRITAIN HIGH SCHOOL

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David L. Chambers

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*Associate Principal - Gold*

Mark J. Fernandes

*Associate Principal - Freshman Academy*

March 1, 2016

Senators Slossberg

Representative Fleischmann

Co-Chairs of the Education Committee

Dear Sen. Slossberg, Rep. Fleischmann and members of the Education Committee,

I am writing to express my complete support of HB 5470.

As an educator in the Consolidated School District of New Britain, I have had the distinct honor of teaching a course entitled Teacher Cadet at New Britain High School. This is a course designed for college bound students interested in developing their own vision of the transformation of education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. We have been working for several years to create a Teacher Pathway that would give our students the opportunity to foresee a future as an educator. It has been a collaborative effort with our Board of Education and CCSU. Through coursework and internships we are providing our students with the hope and possibility that becoming a teacher is within their grasp.

Our students come from a variety of ethnic backgrounds. Unfortunately our school and our district's teaching staff isn't a reflection of the diverse population that we teach. We need our students to believe that they can see themselves in the front of our classrooms. We have only begun to touch the surface in the pursuit of bringing about a change. This bill can provide a more solidified plan to expand opportunities and rid our society of the barriers that have been in existence for way too long.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra A Fraioli